



October, 2007

Dear Riverside Community Service Partner:

The City of Riverside in collaboration with the County of Riverside and the Riverside Homeless Care Network will hold its second annual Project Homeless Connect event on **Thursday, November 15th** at the **Path of Life Riverside Emergency Shelter, 2840 Hulen Place**. Riverside will join dozens of cities across the country in conducting this innovative homeless service event as part of **National Project Homeless Connect**, a 1-day, 1-stop consumer-centric engagement activity where dozens of community service providers and volunteers are mobilized in one setting to assist scores of homeless individuals with real-time access to direct services and on-the-spot results.

Activities being planned for **Riverside Project Homeless Connect II** include direct service engagement in the areas of medical screening, counseling and treatment services, housing assistance, employment services, benefits enrollment, family services and personal care services such as showers, haircuts, spiritual counseling and a hot meal.

In order to make this a truly successful, solution-oriented event, we need **YOUR** participation. We are seeking service organizations and community volunteers to assist with a wide range of tasks – from providing direct, on-site access to specific services during the event (either your own or others that you can secure) to donating food and goods for the event to volunteering time on the day of the event serving in a variety of hospitality roles. It is important to understand that this is not an information and referral event. The goal of Project Homeless Connect is to provide real-time access to specific programs and activities so that participants leave directly “connected” to actual services that help meet their specific identified needs.

Please fill out one of the two forms attached to this letter – the Service Participant Form or the Volunteer Participant Form and let us know how you will be participating on the day of the event. Don't worry if you are not yet certain how you can help. Just share with us your desire to serve and we will find ways to plug you in. There are more than enough ways that we can put your passion to serve to good use. Over the next few weeks, we will be sending you additional communications, providing more directions for your participation in this special event. In addition, there will be a **Service Provider/Volunteer Orientation on Tuesday, November 13th, 6:00 pm at First Congregational Church** to help everyone get fully plugged in to the event.

Thank you in advance for your interest in participation in helping to “end homelessness in our community.” If you have questions or need additional information on this event, please contact:

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To learn more about National Project Homeless Connect Week, go to www.usich.gov and click on the link to National Project Homeless Connect.

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